

REMARKS

Claims 3-14, 16 and 20 remain in the present application. Claims 9, 14 and 16 have been amended in this response. No new matter has been introduced as a result of the amendments. Claims 3-13 and 20 are directed to allowable subject matter.

Claims 14 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gibson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,601,167) in view of Stancil (US Patent 5,951,685). For the following reasons, Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection and respectfully request the withdrawal thereof.

As was argued previously with respect to claim 20, program instructions of a bootstrap program are transmitted from a bootstrap storage device into an initial area of a working memory unit (main memory unit) with the assistance of a control circuit. The processor copies the program instructions of the bootstrapping program from such initial area into an end area of the main memory unit. Thereafter, the program instructions transmitted into the main memory unit during the bootstrapping transmission process are executed whereby a reload transmission process is executed for transmitting program instructions from a reload memory unit into the initial area of the main memory unit. The bootstrap storage device and/or the reload memory unit represent a storage unit having serial access or a storage device which requires a number of read accesses for reading a program instruction of the process. Based on the intelligent method and accompanying installation/circuit arrangement, it is possible that the bootstrap storage device and the reload memory unit may be configured, for example, as serial storage device.

None of the cited references, alone or in combination, disclose "a main memory unit including an initial area to which the bootstrap program is transferred and to which program commands from the reload memory unit are transferred using the bootstrap program before execution by the processor, wherein said memory unit further includes an end area to which program commands of the bootstrap program are copied from the initial area" as recited in claim 14 and similarly recited in claim 16. Gibson merely discloses the use of a serial memory as a bootstrap storage device in a computer system. The program instructions stored in the serial memory are copied into a RAM (16) during the boot process. Gibson does not, however, teach or suggest anything as to exactly where in the RAM (16) the program instructions are stored. Specifically, there is nothing disclosed in Gibson to the effect that the program instructions, in a

first step, are copied into an initial area and are copied in a second step, from the initial area, into an end area of a main memory unit. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that Gibson does not teach or suggest, given an execution of the program instructions transmitted into the main memory unit during the bootstrap transmission program, that a reload transmission process is initiated for transmitting the program instructions from the reload memory unit into the initial area of the main memory unit. It follows that Gibson further cannot teach an installation or circuit arrangement having such characteristics either.

Similarly, Stancil discloses a computer system with a processor, a memory controller, a serial-access programmable read-only memory PROM, a random-access memory controller, and a base memory (col. 3, lines 16-21). Stancil discloses two embodiments of the memory controller, where the first utilizes a random-access memory controller 70 (FIG. 3) which addresses and reads the BIOS code from the serial-access PROM 68 (FIGS. 2 and 4). The other embodiment uses an auto-configuring memory controller 72 (FIG. 6) which sequentially reads the BIOS code from the serial-access PROM 68 (col. 5, lines 58-65). Stancil further teaches in FIG. 7 that memory controller 72 unloads the line of code to a portion of base memory 18 necessary to store the BIOS code. Control then proceeds to step 311 where it is determined whether all of the BIOS code in the serial PROM 68 has been transferred. If all the BIOS code in the serial PROM 68 has not been transferred, control loops and returns to step 308.

Accordingly, Stancil fails to teach or suggest that the base memory is split up into an initial area and an end area. Furthermore Stancil does not teach the initial area that is used to store a transferred bootstrap program from the bootstrap memory unit and to store program commands transferred from the reload memory unit using the bootstrap program. Stancil also does not disclose the end area that is used to store program commands of the bootstrap program copied from the initial area by the processor, as recited in the present claims.

In light of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited art does not teach or suggest the claimed features of the present application. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 3-14, 16 and 20, are both novel and not obvious over the art of record.

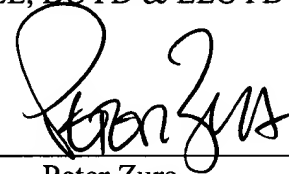
For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims of the present application, as amended, are patentable over the cited references, and respectfully

request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If any fees are due in connection with this application as a whole, the Examiner is authorized to deduct said fees from Deposit Account No.: 02-1818. If such a deduction is made, please indicate the attorney docket number (0112740-338) on the account statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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